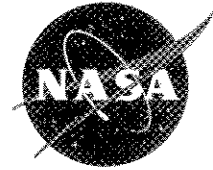


National Aeronautics and Space Administration  
**Headquarters**  
Washington, DC 20546-0001



June 23, 2009

Reply to Attn of:

General Law Practice Group

TO: Distribution

FROM: Alternate Designated Agency Ethics Official

SUBJECT: Determination Regarding Attendance at the Renewable Energy Business Network (ReBn) Launch Event on June 25, 2009

On June 25, 2009, DC's Renewable Energy Business Network ("ReBn") is hosting a networking event at the International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers, Washington, D.C., from 5:30 – 7:30 p.m. The sponsor members of the event include the International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers, Novus, Siemens, Infinia, Thompson Smitch, Grays Harbor Paper, Baker & McKenzie, Pepper Hamilton, DowLohnes, Hobbs & Towne, and Greenworks Partners.

The reception will include complimentary hors d'oeuvres and a cash bar. This reception will include professionals from academia, research, industry and government. The estimated cost of the reception, which includes hors d'oeuvres is less than \$20.00 per person.

I find that this event meets the requirements of a "widely attended gathering" as defined in 5 CFR § 2635.204(g). I further determine that there is an Agency interest in NASA personnel attending the event. This reception will afford an opportunity for the attendees to exchange information on renewable energy projects and technologies. Accordingly, NASA employees whose duties do not substantially affect the event sponsors may accept an invitation for attendance to the reception.

However, NASA employees whose duties may substantially affect ReBn, or its members, such as by way of procurement duties, should seek an individual determination pursuant to 5 C.F.R. § 2635.204(g)(3)(i) regarding participation in this event from their local ethics counselor. Moreover, NASA employees who are in non-career positions in which the President's Executive Order of January 21, 2009, requires signing an ethics pledge may only attend if they reimburse the sponsors the cost of the reception.

Attendees are reminded of the \$20 gift exception at 5 C.F.R. § 2635.204(a) which provides that employees may accept gifts valued at no more than \$20 per occasion (and no more than \$50 from one source in a calendar year). NASA invitees should not accept any gift items distributed at the reception which exceed the \$20 cap.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Adam F. Greenstone', with a stylized, flowing script.

Adam F. Greenstone